

THE



Capitol

NEWS

FROM HOLLYWOOD

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JUNE, 1947



BETTY HUTTON

EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, JR.

At Deadline

Wingy Manone of the New Orleans Manones was rehearsing a new small combo in late May and preparing for a May 28 opening at Billy Berg's on Vine street in H'wood.

Manone will take over where Butch Stone's band left off. Featured in the Wingy combo will be Zutty Singleton, another New Orleans pioneer, on skins; Guts Shepard on bass; Bud Wilson, trombones; Art Lyons, clarinet, and Johnny Wittwer, piano. Berg was attempting to bring Joe Alexander in as a featured added attraction but Alexander nixed the offer. Manone, a jazz veteran for more than 20 years, recently completed his biography with the assistance of Paul Vandervoort. The tome is to be published next winter.

It's Krupa again at the Palladium, for the umpteenth time. The showmanly little drummer will open on June 2 for a six-week engagement with Carolyn Grey as his featured vocalist. It was at the same dancery, a year or so ago, that Carolyn joined the Krupa band.

Krupa, however, will be here without the tenor sax of Charlie Ventura, who now is leading his own aggregation in New York. On Gene's last trip to Hollywood it was Ventura who sparked every arrangement.

Butch Stone and his recently-formed crew, leaving Billy Berg's after four weeks, will probably remain intact. The good-natured saxophonist and singer, who for many years was a star of the Van Alexander, Larry Clinton and Les Brown orchestras, will keep plugging away as a leader. Butch also expects to get a spot on a network radio show.

The crew lines up with Ted Nash on tenor, Jimmy Rowles at the piano; Tony Rizzi, guitar; Larry Bellew, alto and clarinet; Jackie Mills, drums; Arnold Fishkind, bass, and Shorty Rogers, trumpet. Mable Scott, singer, was held over through the Stone engagement. Station KFWB aired Butch's band—and his vocals—at midnight nightly.



DAVE DEXTER'S surface noise

For It's Somebody's Birthday

JOHNNY MERCER is a slow-talking, fast-thinking character who frequently wears the vilest sportshirts in Hollywood, Crosby not excepted. Buddy De Sylva doesn't talk much, either, and he long ago learned there were more boots to be had making records than making films. Glenn E. Wallichs habitually is draped in blood-colored neckties, and if your little radio at home isn't functioning he's the guy who can come around and have it in ship-shape condition with a twist of his pliers.

All of which is a feeble preamble to a little column this month which Messrs. Mercer, De Sylva and Wallichs—the big brass of Capitol Records, Inc.—will probably wish had never been printed.

No Celebrating at Capitol

June, you see, happens to bring a birthday anniversary to Capitol. This year it's the fifth. But the brass—Mercer, De Sylva and Wallichs—are the kind of guys who feel that such an occasion calls for no firecracker firing or special hoopla. They are planning for the next five, and 10, and 15 years. They head a waxworks that ranks among the Big Four but they want it to become No. 1. And there's just enough method in their combined madness for them to achieve that goal.

Mercer be hanged, De Sylva to the contrary and Wallichs go take a flying fling at the moon... this is a two-bit tribute to the three of them and their little firm that jumped into the ring with three murdering opponents when times were toughest. The bosses control the records but they don't have much say about the little Capitol mag. Nearly 800,000 readers of this rag are going to hear about Capitol's birthday for the next 31 seconds.

Petrillo Ban a Rabbit Punch

Just four or five weeks after Capitol released its first records (this was 1942 when we were losing the war in the Pacific and floundering, yet, with the Nazis all over Europe) Old Man Petrillo of the musicians' union arbitrarily ruled that no more records could be made. Capitol didn't have much in its wax bank, and guys like Kenton, Nat Cole, Stafford, Peg Lee and Paul Weston had not yet been affiliated with the firm. But items like "Strip Polka," "Cow-Cow Boogie" and "The Elks' Parade" put the little outfit in biz to stay, and with these and a scant half-dozen other click discs Cap's Mercer, De Sylva and Wallichs rode out the storm until the Petrillo ban ended in November of 1943, nearly 18 months later.

The little Cap News sheet sprang up during the ban and then, as now, the bosses said to make it newsy, legitimately newsy. "We don't care who you write about, Dex. Don't feature Capitol artists unless they make news. Go ahead and write about Victor, Decca and Columbia talent if their talent deserves it. We'll let the little ads carry the Capitol message and if the publication is really full of news and pictures and the things music lovers want to read about we will be happy. The whole thing will pay off in things that money can't buy—goodwill, prestige and stature with those who love music."

And Now Lookie—Three Labels

And that's how it has been ever since. The bosses even now permit one cynical Cap employee to go on the radio every week to review and frequently razz Capitol records. It's the screwiest situation imaginable.

That's about all there is to this column. The point is this: Capitol's little black and silver label is Big Time today. And there are two new little Capitols, the purple Criterion series and the brilliant young red "Americana" label which will be introduced this month. Take a bow, Johnny, Buddy and Glenn. It's been great and the next five will be greater.

Now turn the pages and read about the other record companies' performers. Confidentially, we here at Capitol love 'em too!

Ciro's Offers Duke Ellington On July 25

It will soon be "Ellington time" for Californians again. The mighty Duke and his bandsmen, absent from the west coast nearly a year, are booked to open at Ciro's hincty nitery on the Sunset Strip starting July 25. The engagement will run for two weeks.

Ellington will be missing some of the top sidemen who appeared with him on previous visits. William (Cat) Anderson, who made his first California trek in 1946, recently left the Ellington band and is out on his own in the east with his small combo. But within the fold this month when the troupe arrives will be such renowned sidemen as Johnny Hodges, alto; Al Sears, tenor; Harry Carney, baritone; Lawrence Brown, trombone; Sonny Greer, drums; Fred Guy, guitar; Oscar Pettiford, bass; Taft Jordan, Harold Baker and Scad Hemphill, trumpets, and Al Hibbler, baritone vocalist whom the Duke snared away from Jay McShann's band not too many seasons back.

Ellington will play engagements along the coast through the summer, possibly going as far north as Vancouver. Then he will return to Hollywood for a Hollywood Bowl concert on Aug. 31 under auspices of Herman D. Hover, operator of Ciro's.

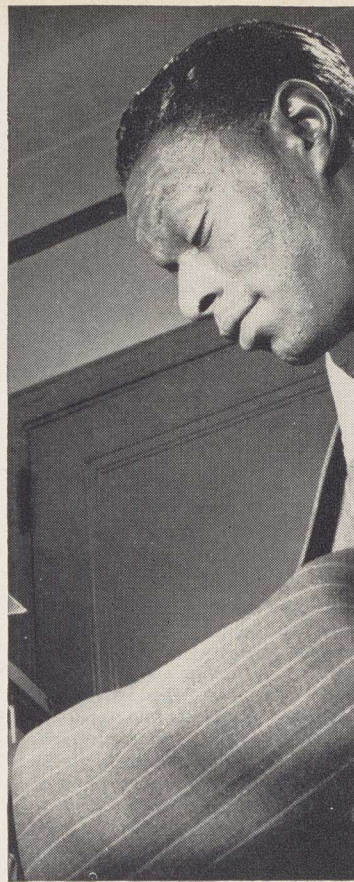
Harry James Plans To Produce Films

When Harry James returns to Hollywood shortly, after a long eastern tour, he will enter a new phase of his career—a producer of films.

Frank Monte, Harry's mentor, announced that Harry will produce "musicals only" starting this fall, the first feature planned being based on a story by Frank Waldman, "Downbeat for Two." It is doubtful, Monte asserted, that Harry's wife Betty Grable will be able to star in any of her hubby's endeavors, for she is under long-term contract to 20th-Fox. So is Harry, but he has but one more flick to make under his present contract.

Palladium for Carle

Frankie Carle opens at the Palladium, Hollywood, on July 22. Tony Pastor is the spot's current attraction.



Ready for the Hollywood Bodge

Cole Home For Nitery Stint

Nat Cole returned to Los Angeles, his home, in May after chalking up one of the most brilliant records in show business history on his recent tour.

Nat's King Cole Trio opens on June 3 at the Bodge in Hollywood with Nat, naturally, at the piano and vocal mikes and with Oscar Moore, guitar, and Johnny Miller, backing his efforts. The King, son of a Chicago minister, also will continue to air his Saturday afternoon NBC program for Wildroot with a different guest artist featured weekly. The combo also is slated to be featured at the next Gene Norman "Just Jazz" concert in mid-June at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.

Films? Nat can't escape 'em. Every year he, Oscar and Johnny face the cameras. This summer, according to his manager Carlos Gastel, the trio will be starred in a major production.

\$300 a Week Pay For Bob Crosby Sidemen

Unemployed California musicians, thousands of them, are casting hopeful eyes on Bob Crosby's new radio program that goes coast to coast starting June 30 via CBS with Campbell's Soups as sponsor.

The program will be aired from H'wood every evening for 15 minutes, with a repeat a few hours later. Union scale for musicians in the band is nearly \$300 per man every week when rehearsal time is included. At least 20 and possibly as many as 30 musicians will form the orchestra.

Jerry Gray May Take Over

According to Gil Rodin, vet manager of Crosby, negotiations were under way for Jerry Gray to come west and serve as arranger and conductor of the orchestra for Crosby. Gray, a one-time fiddler with Artie Shaw and later chief of the late Glenn Miller's arranging staff, indicated he would accept Crosby's offer.

Crosby just returned from a hectic theater tour of many months, a tour which saw him nabbing the biggest box-office grosses of his career. For several weeks, since his return to his home in Southern California, he has been golfing daily.

Musicians Not Yet Set

Rodin will be selecting musicians for the juicy radio plum this month. Crosby was signed by the soup company for the usual 13 weeks with options dependent upon Crosby's Hooper showings.

Avodon Offering Calloway Weekends

For the first time in many years, Cab Calloway and his band are playing a location engagement on the west coast.

Calloway holds forth weekends only at the Avodon Ballroom in downtown L. A. On previous trips to California in recent years, the master of hi-de-ho confined his activities to films alone.

Omaha First to Hear The Desi Arnaz Band

With the Bob Hope program off the air for the summer, Desi Arnaz took his band east to play theaters. On June 13 the Cuban maestro will go into the Omaha Orpheum. Four weeks at the N.Y. Paramount are skedded, starting in August.



BG Sets N.O. Concert Dates

After a fast 10-day trip to New York, Benny Goodman returned to Hollywood May 15 and announced that he would fly to New Orleans in June for a four-day appearance as guest soloist with the New Orleans Pop Symphony.

Goodman was featured on May 27 at UCLA in a musicale, strictly legit, along with the famous Roth String Quartet.

Benny said he would take Jimmy Rowles along with him on the jaunt to Louisiana. The dates for the Crescent City performances will be June 10, 11, 12 and 13. Rowles is the former Benny Carter and Woody Herman pianist who has been recording extensively with Goodman on Capitol in both small combo and full band arrangements.

BG, meanwhile, is about to conclude his Monday night NBC radio series with Vic Borge. He's continuing to beam messages to Soviet Russia via short-waved transcriptions under auspices of the U. S. State Dept.

ASSISTING BENNY Goodman with the Russian language so that the famed clarinetist can improve his regular shortwave air programs to the Soviet, Mrs. Igor Stravinsky, wife of the popular Russian clefper, has been meeting frequently with BG in Hollywood and serving as his tutor. Goodman's series of transcribed programs is sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

Sherwood, Others Test for Fat Role

Although Jimmy Stewart has often been mentioned as having the leading role in "Young Man With a Horn" sewed up, Warner Brothers' Studio this month is testing a number of actors and several musicians for the role. Bobby Sherwood, for one, is making a test and will disband his orchestra if he gets it. At least temporarily.

Pinky Tomlin Touring

Pinky Tomlin and the object of his affections, his band, took to the road from Hollywood in May and will play engagements throughout the west coast during the hot months.

vine street gab

AL JARVIS is now syndicating his "Original Make Believe Ballroom" title to jocks on radio stations outside of Los Angeles proper. The title, which he conceived back about 1935 while spieling over KMTR, is said to be fully protected in his name and although Martin Block used the same tag for many years over New York's WNEW, Block so far has not attempted to tag his new west coast program "Original Make Believe Ballroom."

Jarvis and Block, starting June 2, will be bucking each other every morning over KLAC and KFWB, incidentally. There's a lot of interest throughout Southern California in the old rivalry, now flaring anew with both principals pitted against each other in the same bailiwick. General feeling is that they'll both prosper.

Les Brown took his band, with about eight new men under his banner for the first time, on a tour of the Pacific Northwest. Ray Kellogg and Eileen Wilson handle lyrics.

Jack Ordean, the big alto man who handled all the solos with the original Stan Kenton band, took Doc Rando's chair in Abbey Browne's little combo at Charley Foy's Valley nitery.

Ray Herbeck's ork will be held at the Last Frontier, Las Vegas, through July 31. Leighton Noble, following a run at the Catalina Island Casino, will follow in August.

Jack Parr, new comic, will take over Jack Benny's Sunday NBC program this month. Music assignment goes to the Page Cavanaugh trio, Cavanaugh at the Steinway.

Ike Carpenter's band has been working weekends at the Trianon Ballroom and impressing dancers favorably.

Alvino Rey carrying on at the Aragon, in Ocean Park, following an opening week which reputedly was the biggest spot has enjoyed in a year or more.

George T. Simon, co-editor of Metronome mag, back to New York after a month gandering bands in L.A. It was his first jaunt here in five years.



KENTON KING perches in the arms of King Kenton, or somethin' like that, in this photo made at San Francisco's Station KSFO a few nights before Stan collapsed. The baby is the son of Wally King, KSFO announcer, who named him in honor of Stan.

—Photo by Gene Howard.

Lee, Barbour On Fish Trek

"We've been working too hard. Everything's moving too fast. Let's go fishing."

That was Peggy Lee's suggestion to her husband, Dave Barbour, a couple of weeks ago following their engagement at the Bodge on Hollywood's Sunset Boulevard. And so Peg put on slacks, Dave stored away his guitar and Mr. and Mrs. Barbour upped and left town on a piscatorial excursion.

Peggy and Dave, with Woody Herman, begin their new summer airshow for General Electric on July 13. Buddy Cole, Heine Beau, Phil Stephens and other crack L.A. musicians who regularly record with the Lee-Barbour combo will be in Dave's GE band.

Short for Jeffries

Herb Jeffries is being featured in a new musical short, "Frenzy," which Monogram is producing for release next fall.

'I'll Be Back Soon'—Stan Kenton Improving

Stan Kenton believes he will be improved enough, physically, to go out on the road again with his "Artistry in Rhythm" orchestra in the early fall and possibly even in August, he told Capitol News on May 25.

It was in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, that Kenton suddenly keeled over in late April, shortly after he had defied the suggestion of his physician to cancel a long road trip and take a vacation. "I got through Texas all right," Stan said later, "and I really felt I could get well by continuing on the road and taking things a bit easier. But that night in Tuscaloosa the walls caved in. I should have taken the doc's advice in the first place."

Band, Daughter 6 Years Old

Long, tall Stan will celebrate the sixth birthday anniversary of his orchestra—and his daughter, Leslie—this month. But it will be a quiet observance, for Kenton learned when he returned to his Hollywood home that an

undisturbed rest of at least three months is an absolute necessity if he intends to regain his strength and resume as a bandleader later.

His manager, rotund, roaring Carlos Castel of Moscow Mules renown, sadly pointed out that Stan's enforced vacation would mean "throwing right out the window" more than \$150,000 cash in guarantees on one-nighters and theater engagements booked for the summer. "But there was and is no question of what we'll do," he bellowed, "Stan must get well. If it takes 10 years we'll wait it out. And when he does come back and gets his men and June Christy together again, you can bet the band will be greater than ever. Stan will come up with a lot of new ideas in music. And, naturally, he will be more enthusiastic than before he flipped it."

He's Really Resting!

Kenton actually "got lost" when he returned to the coast immediately after collapsing on the Alabama bandstand. Not once has he been seen in his usual haunts. Even his close friends and business associates have maintained contact with him only sporadically.

Vido Musso is also in Hollywood, enjoying a vacation and getting fatter—on spaghetti. June Christy is doing a single at the Bodge. Ed Safranski, bass; Ray Wetzel, Buddy Childers, Chico Alvarez, trumpets; Kai Winding and Skip Layton, trombones; Bob Gioga, baritone; Shelly Manne, drums, and all the other sidemen are awaiting Stan's call to take up where they left off.

Two New Sides Released

Capitol will regularly release cuttings made by the band shortly before it broke up, Stan's latest coupling mating "Machito" with "Collaboration." Both are instrumentals; both are new entries in Kenton's "Artistry in Rhythm" series dedicated to what Stan terms "progressive jazz" for want of a better term.

'TEMPTATION'
(TIM-TAYSHUN)
CAP. 412
VOCAL BY CINDERELLA G. STUMP AND RED INGLE

his hilarious first on

red ingle
AND THE NATURAL SEVEN

'(I LOVE YOU) FOR SENTIMENTAL REASONS'
'(I LOVE YOU) FOR SEVENTY MENTAL REASONS'
VOCAL BY BUTTERMILK TUSSEE

Another Whitting Hit!

MARGARET WHITING
WITH FRANK DEVOL AND HIS ORCHESTRA

OLD DEVIL MOON
FROM THE BROADWAY MUSICAL "SINGING RAINBOW"
ASK ANYONE WHO KNOWS
CAP. 410

Capitol RECORDS

Betty Hutton Wants 4 Babies And Chance at 'Serious' Film

With her new Paramount flicker, "The Perils of Pauline," now canned and being shipped to theatres throughout the United States for July openings, blonde Betty Hutton this month returned to the sound and camera stages determined to make a "serious" dramatic picture unlike anything she has previously attempted.

The title of Betty's next starring vehicle is "Dream Girl." The story is pegged around a chick who toils in a book store and who dreams herself into the lives of characters in fiction.

At her new home in Brentwood last month she was playing host to her singing sister, Marion, who for several years chirped with the late Glenn Miller's ork and who recently has been singing as a single.

Betty, who also once sang with a dance band, the Vincent Lopez crew of 1938-39, won't sing a lick in "Dream Girl." But in "The Perils of Pauline" she has four big numbers, one of them

Bauduc Featured in 'Mardi Gras' Film

Back from his long eastern tour with Bob Crosby's band, Ray Bauduc went to work in Hollywood last month in a full-length feature film which Tony Patton is producing and which has tentatively been titled "Mardi Gras." John Plonsky, trumpet; Bob Hammack, piano, and Bob Stone, bass, assist Drummer Bauduc in several of the scenes. The pictures revolves around the colorful annual celebration held in New Orleans. It will be released independently.

Peter Tanner Coming

Noted British jazz authority, writer and editor Peter Tanner, of London, arrives in Hollywood about June 10 for an extended visit. Tanner has long contributed to Down Beat, the British Melody Maker, Capitol News and other internationally-read music rags.

a ballad which she waxed for Capitol with Joe Lilley's orchestra.

In private life, this month's Cap News cover gal is known as Mrs. Ted Briskin. He's a camera manufacturer. Their daughter, who arrived last November, is called "Buttercup."

"I'm a family girl, really," Betty said last month. "Ted and I want four children. And we intend to have them. In between, I'll make films and records. I think it can be done."



HEADING EAST this month after completing scenes in MGM's "Fiesta" movie, starring Esther Williams, 10-year-old Joey Preston will play a N.Y. theater and then return to Hollywood for additional pic appearances. He has already made three movies. Joey, a flash drummer, also pounds a piano and sings.

Meet the Jock!

MARK SHEELER is a former radio engineer who turned to spieling with the help of hot platters, especially those



SHEELER

Originally from Brooklyn, he wants the world to know that he was the first announcer to do a live broadcast upside down—for 5 minutes in a Loop-O-Plane at a carnival. But he likes Goodman better.

by Ben Goodman, Mark's long-time fave. One of his stanzas is called "Mark Remarks," but his pet is the "Blues Chaser Club" which airs over WINC in Winchester, Va. Just 23, Mark is a veteran who admittedly is looking for the "right gal" to wed.

Lutcher New Hollywood Rave

From the bayou country of Louisiana has come one of the most exciting performers to hit the Hollywood bull's-eye.

Nellie Lutcher, now singing and beating a Baldwin at the ornate Bodge on Sunset Boulevard, where June Christy also is appearing, is the newest west coast sensation. She's been around the Los Angeles area several years working small niteries but until the Bodge engagement she remained unknown to all but a handful of her fans. Capitol's Dave Dexter contracted her to wax for Capitol's new "Americana" series recently and the contract led to her Bodge appearance.

Miss Lutcher, hailed by many Bodge frequenters as "the female Nat Cole," is given rhythm accompaniment on her first two Cap needlings by Ulysses Livingston, guitar; Lee Young, drums, and Billy Hadnott, bass. The titles include "Hurry On Down," a Lutcher original, and "The Lady's In Love With You."

Joe Alexander Star Of Cricket Club Show

Joe Alexander moved into the Cricket Club, Los Angeles nitery, as vocal soloist and emcee in May as a result of the success of his "Heartaches" and other waxings for Cap. Geechie Smith, his torrid trumpet and jump combo share billing with Alexander, whose big baritone voice is nabbing boffo attention from music lovers.

Barnet Still Jumps Despite 'Blast'

He Was Only Seeking Publicity, He Admits

Charlie Barnet is up in arms. "The corn bands have ruined the meaning of good swing and jazz," he argues. "A leader who has a swing band can't get a booking today."

Now at the Culver City Meadowbrook Ballroom with his newly-organized band, the Mad Mab of Musicdom still jumps. His music swings. His brass is loud, precise and powerful. But Charlie doesn't want his music described as swing or jazz.

"Sugar Coating" the Product

Apparently unaware of Stan Kenton's monstrous box-office grosses and fast-selling records, Barnet feels that he can continue to offer exciting music, much the same as the music he has always offered, so long as he sugar-coats it is dance music.

So excited about the whole thing was Barnet, last month, that he called in his press agent and issued a mimeographed "blast" against hot music to music mag editors throughout the United States. Queried by the Cap News as to whether he had flipped his wig, Charlie said his idea was to start a controversy. "That seems to be the way to attract attention," he said. "This Meadowbrook engagement is extremely important. If we can get a big thing going in the papers and with the disc jocks we should do bigger business."

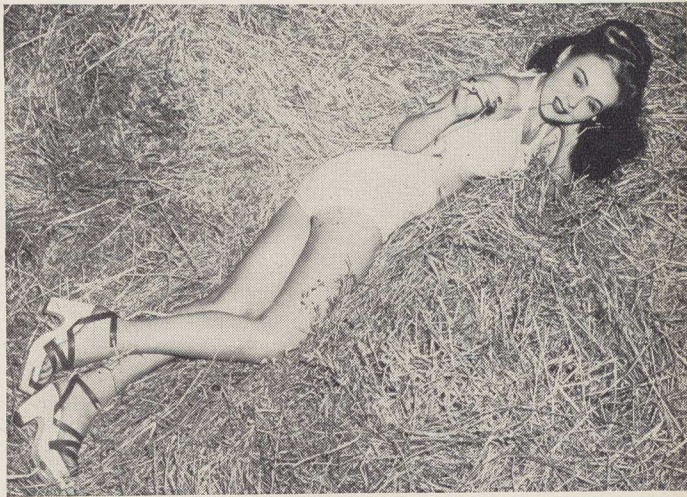
Barney emphasized that his new band is not a "mickey" crew. Nor is the Mab playing saxophone a la Wayne King or Carmen Lombardo.

New Zito Band There Also

At the Meadowbrook every night, the place looks like a circus. In addition to Barnet's band the new ork of Jimmy (Trumpet) Zito holds forth, and there are eight vaudeville acts featured between dance sets. It's all a big experiment on the part of the promoters and general admission is scaled as low as a dollar.

In Barnet's band are Dick Shanahan, former Les Brown drummer; Bill Miller, resuming as pianist; Kurt Bloem and Bob (I Sued Dorsey) Dawes in the reed section; Ed Mihelich, bass; Bunny Briggs and Carol Scott. Zito's band, although smaller, isn't offered much opportunity to impress because he is forced to play for the acts.

Other publications, according to Barnet, are printing the story about Charlie's "detesting" swing, jazz and hot music. But it's all a publicity stunt, avers the Mab. He only wants to draw a little attention to his new band.



FRUSTRATED FINCH—Paula Drew studied for years to be a singer and wound up as a star of Universal-International Pictures, where—naturally—she never is given much chance to chirp. A Detroit girl, Paula is a graduate of the Motor City's Fordson High School and a former Julliard student. But she's doing fine in films nonetheless.

Freddy Martin Gleefully Eyes Long Theater Tour

Freddy Martin faces what he gleefully describes as "the most exciting summer of my career" this month. His band leaves California to play eastern theaters for the first time.

Martin and his bandmen depart from Los Angeles on June 25, closing at the Ambassador Hotel's Coconut Grove and opening on July 3 at the RKO Albee Theater in Cincinnati on July 3. The Palace in Cleveland and the Earle in Philly will follow, with the climax coming at the New York Strand Theater, where the Martin mob opens on July 24 for three weeks with a one-week option.

Martin, who runs his own record store in Los Angeles, and whose hobby is training race horses which never win a race, also revealed that Barney McDevitt had been signed to be advance man for the band on the trip. McDevitt is probably the best known publicist on the west coast, in music circles, and he quit as manager of the ill-fated Avodon Ballroom to accept Martin's offer.

Following the N.Y. Strand run, the band plays a week in Boston and several theaters in the Midwest before returning in October to resume as the bandstand attraction at the Ambassador. Eddy Howard holds forth in the absence of Martin.

LOOK OUT, PAULINE!... IT'S HUTTON AGAIN!

...with 2 hits from her forthcoming Paramount picture, "Perils of Pauline."

BETTY HUTTON
WITH JOE LILLEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA

"THE SEWING MACHINE"
WITH VOCAL GROUP

"I WISH I DIDN'T LOVE YOU SO"
CAP. 409

Capitol RECORDS

You broke my heart
when you broke off our engagement
Don't you think that's breaking
it off

"a little too fer"

JOHNNY MERCER
with MERLE TRAVIS and his Coon Hunters

Capitol RECORDS

on the other side
"The Covered Wagon
Rolled Right Along"
CAP 400

RECORDING!

Quiet, Please!

TWO POPULAR west coast artists this month are making their debut as Capitol recording artists. Nellie Lutcher, at left, has been ringing up boffo successes at the smart Bocage room on Hollywood's Sunset Boulevard. She sings and beats the Baldwin like a femme Nat Cole. Latch Nellie's "Hurry On Down" and "The Lady's In Love" for a waxed sample of her stambang style. Ernie Filice, below, swings on an accordion. Yes, and he leads his own quartet which bows, on wax, with "Carolina Moon" and "Dream a Little Dream Of Me." You'll be hearing more of Filice—and Nellie Lutcher—in the months to come.



MAG WHITING, and you can ask anyone who knows, has the answers when it comes to shaping a lyric and blending it with Frank DeVol's sleek orchestral backgrounds. You hear them both on Whiting's needling of "Ask Anyone Who Knows."



PEG O' HEART is the tune that has sent Clark Dennis' soaring the past few weeks. Long starred on radio nets, most recently with Bob Hope, Dennis shown waxing "The Heather On the Hill" with Billy May, right, conducting the accompaniment orchestra.

June Christy In Debut As Solo Nitery Sparrow

Making her debut as a singing single, blonde June Christy opened on May 5 at the Bodge, smart Hollywood supper club. She will continue to work on her own until Stan Kenton reorganizes his band several months from now.

Sharing billing under the Illinois thrush are the Tri-Tones, a male trio also making its first big splash in plush circles, and Nellie Lutcher, who, like June, has just been signed to record exclusively for Capitol. Sarah Vaughn, booked for the Bodge, was cancelled out and will not appear.

Nation's Greatest Folk Talent Will Spark New Capitol 'Americana' Label

PRODUCTION FACILITIES of Capitol Records will be increased tremendously this month when the Hollywood waxworks, which celebrates its fifth anniversary in June, introduces the new red "Americana" series devoted to the great folk music of America.

Tearing off the new series with a schedule calling for the release of 12 records (24 sides) every month, Capitol will regularly be offering the best in western, hillbilly, jazz and blues entertainment in the future in ample quantities.

Demand Steadily Increasing

"The demand for folk music is ever-increasing," said Floyd A. Bittaker, Cap's national sales manager, in revealing that the "Americana" series would soon be in the stores coast to coast. "Capitol has always, in the last five years, attempted to cover this idiom with the most popular and talented stars. It was physically impossible to devote full production to this one phase, however, until now.

"The first six artists selected to debut the new red 'Americana' label for Capitol," Bittaker declared, "will comprise Tex Ritter, Tex Williams, Nellie Lutcher, Sonny Terry, Uncle Henry's Original Kentucky Mountaineers and Larry Cassidy. The two Texans are, obviously, western artists. Miss Lutcher and Sonny Terry are noted for their blues renditions. Uncle Henry's group and Larry Cassidy feature the music of the hills."

Sock List of Talent Revealed

The "Americana" series will also feature such luminaries as Merle Travis, Julia Lee, Joe Alexander, Wesley Tuttle, Jimmy Wakely, Pappy (Gube) Beaver, Jesse Price, Geechie Smith, Cliffee Stone, "Little David" Wheaton, Jack Guthrie and numerous others, including scores of famous jazzmen.

Ritter will be honored with the first record in the new series. He was the first folk artist to join Capitol, back in June of 1942 when the company was founded by B. G. (Buddy) De Sylva, Johnny Mercer and Glenn E. Wallichs, and through the years he has remained one of the most successful performers on the Capitol roster.

The numbers of the first release, to be available to stores on June 9, include the following—all on the new red Capitol "Americana" label: 40000—Tex Ritter: "Bats in Your Belfry" and "The Last Mile."



TEX RITTER, who escaped uninjured in an airplane crash last month while on tour, is one of six popular artists who this month will introduce Capitol's sparkling new "Americana" series of discs devoted to America's finest folk music. The music includes western, hill country, blues, jazz, spirituals and sacred performances.

40001—Tex Williams and his Western Caravan: "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!" and "Roundup Polka."

40002—Nellie Lutcher and her Rhythm: "Hurry On Down" and "The Lady's In Love With You."

40003—Sonny Terry: "Whoopin' the Blues" and "All Alone Blues."

40004—Uncle Henry's Original Kentucky Mountaineers: "You Should Have Thought of That Before" and "Two Time Loser."

40005—Larry Cassidy: "Sold Down the River" and "Stormy Heart."

Same Price as Regular Capitols

Under the new program, according to Bittaker and other Capitol executives, Capitol will be releasing more folk music performances than any other recording company. The retail price of the new red Cap disc will be the same as the regular black and silver Capitol biscuit, 60 cents plus tax, it also was announced by Bittaker.

L. A. Choir Swings Like Crazy on Air

California may be dull, comparatively speaking, these warm days of early summer. But if all too many bands sound sad, and singers sorrowful, there still remains an attraction that is getting more than its share of attention.

The "attraction," comprised of 150 voices, is the choir of the St. Paul Baptist Church in downtown Los Angeles. The Rev. John L. Branham presents a full hour's airing every Sunday night at 10:30 via KFWB with J Earl Hines conducting the group and handling vocal solos. The program, titled "Echoes of Eden," is produced by Joe Adams and highlights the most exciting choral music being aired anywhere today. Thousands of Hollywood musicians, actors and plain citizens are listed among the regular listeners.

T. Dorsey Back As a Maestro

Tommy Dorsey is back in front of a band again.

The sometimes sentimental, sometimes ferocious, tram slider opened in mid-May at the Casino Gardens Ballroom in Ocean Park, which he owns and operates himself. Stuart Foster gets top vocal billing. Bobby Byrne and his trombone went back east. Byrne's band was featured at the Casino for two months prior to Dorsey's return.

Wakely Going North

Jimmy Wakely left California on May 15 to play theatres in Seattle, Portland, Tacoma and Vancouver. The singing cowboy also just completed his umpteenth film.



JUNE MEETS Bob and it's all perfectly proper, for he happens to be Bob Cooper, Stan Kenton's vacationing tenor saxophonist and husband of the blonde, Illinois-born oriole. Miss Christy—or Mrs. Cooper if you prefer—currently is singing at the Bodge in H'wood and will be featured at the June 23 "Just Jazz" concert skedded by Gene Norman. When Kenton recovers, both June and Bob will rejoin his band.

Photo by Gene Howard.

Herman Quits Discs For Network Program

Woody Herman checked out of L. A. station KLAC, where he had been featured with Al Jarvis several months as a platter pilot, to prepare for his forthcoming General Electric program with Peggy Lee and Dave Barbour's band. The new series, with Woodrow Emseing, begins July 13.



SLINGIN' SAM Donahue of tenor sax fame checks a score with his vocalist, Bill Lockwood, on a waxing session in New York. Sam also likes to check the daily scores of the Detroit Tigers, for like Margaret Whiting, Bobby Byrne, Sonny Burke, Paula Drew and no telling how many other show business satellites, he calls the Motor City his home bailiwick.

Blind Sonny Terry Handed Discing Deal By Johnny Mercer

Johnny Mercer last month pactured the popular North Carolina blues-shouter and harmonica player, Sonny Terry, to a recording pact.

Terry, whose real name is Sanders Terrell, lost his sight via an accident when he was 12. Now 35, he has succeeded brilliantly despite the handicap and is currently featured in the sock Broadway success, "Finian's Rainbow."

Terry's first faces for Capitol will be released on June 9 nationally, according to Mercer, who points out that Terry is adept in imitating fox chases, railroad trains and other unusual sounds as well as singing blues.

Red Norvo Obtains Local 47 Standing

Kenneth (Red) Norvo, noted vibes and xylophone soloist, has completed his residence requirements and was to have been granted membership in Local 47, the musicians' union, on June 1. He also has been rehearsing a new little combo comprised of H'wood musicians.

IT'S HERE!

I WONDER, I WONDER, I WONDER

Martha Tilton

with Vocal Group and Dean Elliott And His Orchestra

CAP. 395

Capitol RECORDS

THAT'S MY DESIRE

BENNY GOODMAN AND HIS QUINTET

Benny GOODMAN

'Fine and Dandy'

NEW!

From the musical, "FINE AND DANDY"

BENNY GOODMAN AND HIS QUARTET

The Lonesome Road

Capitol RECORDS CAP. 394

off the cuff

THREE POPULAR California musicians have solved the "music recession" problem that has all but a few hundred of the 14,000 professional tootlers of Los Angeles Local 47 vexed and perturbed. Nappy Lamare, guitar; Arthur (Doc) Rando, alto and clarinet, and Noni Bernardi, alto saxist, pooled their savings and purchased a night club on Ventura Boulevard in the Valley outside Hollywood and are operating it successfully. The three musickers, pals of many years, play nightly in their own establishment and direct the food and drink concessions personally.

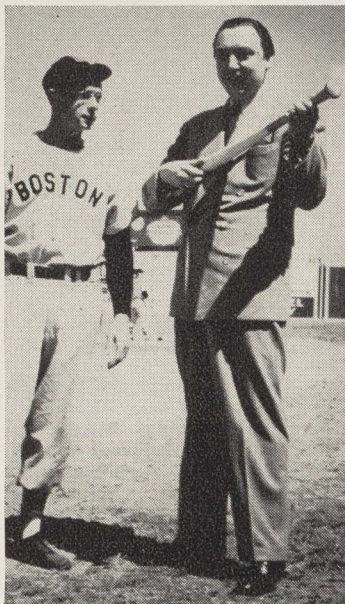
Lamare and Rando are vets of the old Bob Crosby Dixieland band. Bernardi played first chair for Goodman and Kyser. Los Angeles musicians—and the public, too—are finding the club a hospitable hangout. And the owners are prospering. They call it the Club 47.

There's an interesting angle behind the sudden popularity of "Love's Got Me In a Lazy Mood." Eddie Miller, another Bob Crosby alumnus, knocked it off back in 1938 and featured it with the band as a tenor sax solo. In 1943, Johnny Mercer wedded a lyric to the melody and changed the title from the original "Slow Mood" to its present title. But nothing happened. Finally—just a few months ago—Mickey Goldsen of Criterion Music in New York got off the dime, became enthused and started plugging it with artists. Now it looms as a surefire Hit Parade ballad this summer and no one is more astounded than Eddie Miller.

Tex Beneke's band will play its second date at the H'wood Palladium starting Dec. 23. The ork's new first trumpet is Conrad Gozzo.

Tommy Todd, pianist and arranger, busy at MGM. He just landed a fat job in the Culver City film factory's music department.

Johnny Desmond, the ex-GI baritone, back in town for guest spot on Jo Stafford's program.



STARS of the bandstand and the diamond, Alvino Rey and Dom DiMaggio, famed Boston Red Sox outfielder, met last month for the first time and learned that they both hail from San Francisco originally. Rey now leads his band at the Aragon Ballroom in Ocean Park, Cal. DiMaggio is helping his club annex its second consecutive American League pennant.

KLAC's "Can You Tie That?" program featuring guest record reviewers went off the air for the summer. Al Jarvis plans to resume it in September.

the KING COLE Trio

'You Don't Learn That in School'

'Meet Me at No Special Place'

(AND I'LL BE THERE AT NO PARTICULAR TIME)
Vocals by King Cole

Capitol RECORDS CAP. 393

Carle, Beneke To Sub For Jo Stafford, Como

Jo Stafford will begin her all-summer vacation from the NBC Chesterfield program and Perry Como will leave the stanza permanently in early June. Frankie Carle and his band are slated to take over Jo's Tuesday and Thursday sessions via the network starting June 10. Gordon (Tex) Beneke and his ork will assume the Como portions every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for at least 13 weeks.

Jo has been featured on the smoke show twice every week for two years. Paul Weston's orchestra—Paul is frequently called the "Dartmouth Dvorak" in Hollywood—and the Starlighters, featuring Pauline Byrne as the fem voice, hold down the stand with her and are all scheduled to resume as the top Chesterfield attraction when the summer vacation ends and broadcasts resume in October.

Como will not return to the cigarette sponsor in the fall. His contract expires this month and he will head up his own program in the fall.

Carle, the pianist from New Haven, and Beneke, who came out of the navy 18 months ago and formed a band styled along the lines favored by the late Glenn Miller, will be tackling their first major sponsored airshows. Carle intends to launch his series from Hollywood. Beneke will beam from New York. Tom Rockwell, head of General Artists Corp., handled the contracts between the sponsor and the two orchestral attractions.

New Contract, Wife For Maestro Reyes

Noted Latin-American maestro, Chuy Reyes, found that May was the busiest month of his life. First, he signed a long-term contract to record—with his band—for Capitol. Then he upped and wed Shirley Pietila, a prominent opera chanteuse of Detroit.

Reyes and his band have worked the Hollywood Trocadero and other smart boites. The leader pounds a piano.

Europe Next for Jo-Jo

Jose (Jo-Jo) Iturbi opens his European concert tour on June 3 in London's Albert Hall. Then he plans to play in Rotterdam, Brussels, Paris, and other cities before returning to Hollywood for film work at MGM late in the summer.

Meet the Jock!

RUSS NAUGHTON'S "Music Off the Record" is one of the most successful radio shows in the Hartford area. Not



NAUGHTON

yet 30, Russ has a daughter 18 months old and is heavily featured over Station WDRG, employing a modest, self-effacing manner that is unusual and in no way typical of many another wax-whirler. Naughton spent nearly three years in the South Pacific with the AAF. He got his start in radio in 1942. Visiting entertainers invariably make a date with him when they are in Hartford and his listeners—about 4,000 of them—carry membership cards to show their loyalty.

Kay Starr Back On L. A. Scene

Returning to Hollywood after an absence of nine long months, during which time she mothered a daughter, Cathy, Kay Starr resumed her singing career last month as a single at Charley Foy's Club in the San Fernando Valley just a few minutes from Hollywood.

Kay, who for many years thrashed for Joe Venuti, Charlie Barnet and other dance bands, is the wife of Roy Davis. He is a Los Angeles trumpet player.

It was in Memphis that Kay retired, temporarily, to give birth to her daughter. Kathy now is in Hollywood with her parents. At press time Miss Starr was preparing to obtain a court order abrogating her management contract with Ted Yexxa, former nitery columnist of the Los Angeles Daily News, who has not been active in recent months. If the contract is cancelled Kay will once again be a free agent.

Block in Coast Debut

Martin Block launches his new radio series over KFWB, Hollywood, on June 2. The former New York jock, who now lives in Encino, a half-hour from Hollywood, will spin records three hours every day from special studios at his home.

Don Raye knocked out new lyrics to "Down the Road a Piece" and Ella Mae Morse needed 'em for future disc release.

singers' stuff

MARTHA TILTON breezed back into the national radio spotlight again on May 17 when she bowed in as a star of the Lucky Strike Hit Parade program, now airing on NBC. Andy Russell shares singing chores with Martha and the Pied Pipers also have been set to be heard, vocally, through the summer months. Mark Warnow's band backs 'em all.

Margaret Whiting is doing an occasional one-night stand through Southern California. She was to have appeared in Sacramento May 30 and Stockton on May 31 along with Tommy Pederson's young band.

Frank Sinatra, although dropped by Old Golds, will pop up in the fall with another airshow. The payoff is that the sponsor will be the manufacturer of a rival cigarette.

Bing Crosby forsook his trip to Europe and will spend a few weeks, during his summer hiatus from films and radio, in the mountains with his sons.

Ella Mae Morse is back in California and awaiting the birth of her baby—her second.

That comely new chick slinging lyrics in front of Charlie Barnet's band at the Meadowbrook is Carol Scott, the Mad Mab's most recent discovery.

The long vaude tour which Dick Haymes has long planned will get under way June 18 at the Golden Gate Theater in San Fran.

Billy Eckstine is out on the road after a disappointing engagement at



"VARIETY GIRL" is the title of the Paramount flicker which will feature, for the first time in the movies, Pearl Bailey and her songs. Here she "takes five" between scenes as Joe Lilley conducts the studio orchestra. A total of 36 noted stars will be seen in the picture.

New York Yelling For Art Lund Visit

Art Lund hies himself off to Manhattan in early June to play the Capitol Theatre and make other personal appearances during the summer months. A couple of hit discs turned the trick for the big, blond, former Benny Goodman baritone. He is managed by Freddy Goodman, BC's brother.

Billy Berg's Hollywood bistro. Biz was n.s.g. throughout his engagement.

Lillian Lane recording as guest vocalist with Benny Goodman's crew on Cap label.

Nick DeLano, with Murray McEachern's band, has been working Tuesday nights at the Club Morocco on Vine street. Tuesday is "off" night for Red Nichols, his band and Frankie Laine.

Smooth Soft

JO STAFFORD
with The Starlighters
and Paul Weston and His Orchestra

'SMOKE DREAMS'
Theme Song of the "Chesterfield Supper Club"

Starring Jo Stafford, The Starlighters,
and Paul Weston and His Orchestra

Capitol RECORDS

STAFFORD!

JO STAFFORD
with PAUL WESTON and His Orchestra

'ALMOST LIKE BEING IN LOVE'
From the Broadway Musical "Brigadoon"

CAP 401

who's where

KING COLE TRIO: Bocage.
ALVINO REY: Aragon.
GENE KRUPA: Palladium.
JOE ALEXANDER: Cricket Club.
CHARLIE BARNET: Meadowbrook.
GEECHIE SMITH: Cricket Club.
WINGY MANONE: Billy Berg's.
IKE CARPENTER: Trianon weekends.
TOMMY DORSEY: Casino Gardens.
JIMMY ZITO: Meadowbrook.
EDDY HOWARD: Ambassador Hotel, opening June 25.
ERROLL GARNER: The Haig.
MILT WAIN: Hotel Stowell.
JOHNNY WHITE: Club Rounders.
AL DONAHUE: Station KFVD, L.A.
WOODY HERMAN: CBS, Hollywood.
BENNY GOODMAN: NBC, Hollywood.
EDGAR HAYES: Down Beat Club.
JOE DAUBEK: Penthouse.
RAY WHITAKER: Town House.
NICK COCHRAN: Larry Potter's.
MATTY MALNECK: Slapsy Maxie's.
FREDDY MARTIN: Ambassador Hotel.
RUSS MORGAN: Hotel Biltmore.
EMIL BAFFA: Florentine Gardens.
MANNY STRAND: Earl Carroll's.
ABBEY BROWNE: Charley Foy's.
FRANKIE LAINE: Club Morocco.
FREDDIE FISHER: Mell's Madhouse.
TONY FERRARO: Italian Village.
AL KAYLEE: Hideaway Club.
JOSE FLORES: Harry's Lounge.
TOMMY PEDERSON: Palladium, Monday only.

Whiteman a Jockey
Paul Whiteman becomes a disc jockey on June 30. The bandleader will air for a solid hour daily, coast to coast, over stations affiliated with the ABC web. Whiteman may launch his new series from ABC's Hollywood studios.

The Wrong Buddy
It was Buddy DeVito, not Buddy Moreno, who rejoined the Harry James band as vocalist and took to the road in late April. Moreno continues to lead his own band in Chicago.

Chuckle and Swing
when Jack Smith sings!



JACK SMITH
with THE CLARK SISTERS
'CU-TU-GU-RU
(JACK, JACK, JACK)
'OH! MY ACHIN' HEART'
CAP. 403
and Orchestra Conducted by Earl Shelton

Capitol RECORDS

L.A. Detective Will Be Starred On Discs

By LEE GILLETTE

Don't be surprised, especially if you live in Southern California, if the next time you break the law the sarge on the beat issues you a singing summons. This possibility is brought about due to the signing by Capitol Records of one of the Los Angeles Police Department's esteemed detectives, Larry Cassidy, a big and rugged Texan, who loves to sing folk music and country ballads. Larry, an only son, was born in Collin County, Texas, in 1912. After graduating from high school, he worked his way around the country choosing jobs requiring the strength and endurance which were his heritage, such as welding with a pipe-line gang, busting brons, and traveling with a harvesting crew from border to border.

He learned to call square dances and won his first guitar in a poker game. While driving trucks in cross country hauls, he kept himself awake singing to the accompaniment of the radio. He joined the Union Pacific Railroad in 1940 as a special agent riding the trains between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. Two years later, he became a member of the Los Angeles Police Department, serving a great deal of the time as a plain clothes detective. Credit for his discovery goes to Merle Travis, who heard him sing at a party one evening at Larry's home.

Big Caravan Opens June 6
The greatest collection of western stars ever assembled begins a whirlwind one-nighter tour of the midwestern and eastern cities, opening in Kansas City on June 6th. Roy Acuff, Carolina Cotton, Al Dexter, Tex Ritter, Ernest Tubbs and Bob Wills have signed for the trip, which will be made entirely by air. Undoubtedly, the most nervous artist of the group will be Ritter, who just recently walked away from a smashed-up private airplane, which was whisking him from one town to another on a tour last month. His plane was completely demolished (can a plane be incompletely demolished?—E.D.) and the pilot seriously injured. Tex seems to have fate on his side. He's walked away from many motor smashups in the last two years.

FOLKS TO WATCH—Herman the Hermit, who sings and plucks a mean banjo . . . Riley Shepard and his "Who,



MEET LARRY, Cassidy that is, a member of the Los Angeles police force who makes his debut this month on Capitol's new "Americana" series as a singer of old-time tunes. Lee Gillette tells about him on this page.



MUSIC FOR ROMANCE
that says

Somebody Loves Me
9 GREAT STARS IN ONE ALBUM!

Johnny MERCER and Martha TILTON — "If I Had a Talking Picture of You"
The KING COLE TRIO — "You're the Cream In My Coffee"
ANDY RUSSELL — "Just A Memory" • PEGGY LEE — "Somebody Loves Me"
THE PIED PIPERS — "Avalon" • MARGARET WHITING — "April Showers"
HAL DERWIN — "When Day Is Done" • CLARK DENNIS — "Together"

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Just Jazz, And More To Come



A FEW of the stars who were featured at Gene Norman's first "Just Jazz" concert last month in Pasadena, in addition to Benny Goodman, Peggy Lee and Red Norvo, were (left to right) Red Callender, Jackie Mills, Benny

Carter, Charlie Barnet, Norman, Chuck Peterson and Vic Dickenson. Nearly 1,000 persons were turned away. Norman will present his second "Just Jazz" bash on June 23, again at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.